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LETTER DATED 22 MARCH 1994 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to transmit herewith the statement of the Spokesman for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea made public on 21 March 1994.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) PAK Gil Yon
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Annex

Statement issued on 21 March 1994 by the Spokesman of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea

The United States of America has committed a perfidious act by totally reversing the agreed conclusions reached at the Democratic People's Republic of Korea/United States contact on 25 February 1994 in New York. As is known, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the United States at the New York contact on 25 February agreed upon four immediate steps of simultaneous action for a package solution to the nuclear issue: suspension of the "Team Spirit 94" joint military manoeuvres, resumption of working-level contact for the exchange of presidential envoys between the north and south, acceptance of an inspection by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) for maintaining the continuity of safeguards and the holding of the third round of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea/United States of America talks at Geneva on 21 March.

The agreement on these steps of simultaneous action marked an important occasion in bringing back on track the detracted process of a peaceful solution to the nuclear issue. Out of our sincere desire to achieve a negotiated solution to the nuclear issue at any cost, we have honestly fulfilled our obligations pursuant to the agreed conclusions. We accepted the IAEA inspectors' group on the designated date and sincerely provided them with all conditions so that they could conduct inspection activities of enough scope to maintain the continuity of safeguards at the seven declared facilities. Even when the IAEA side rudely requested sampling and measurement that went far beyond the agreed scope for the continuity of safeguards, we met its demand as much as possible, showing our utmost good will. We have held several rounds of working-level contact with the south side and have made every effort possible for an early exchange of special envoys between the north and south, proposing detailed ways and reasonable measures. The United States side, however, has fulfilled none of its obligations, making empty talk since the publication of the New York agreement of 25 February.

Although the United States announced suspension of the "Team Spirit 94" joint military exercises and the date of the opening of the third round of Democratic People's Republic of Korea/United States talks, it unreasonably made them conditional, saying that it would keep that promise only after the inspection by IAEA had been made satisfactorily and the special envoys had been exchanged between the north and south. This was a violation of the New York agreement based on the principle of simultaneous action. The United States has gone so far as to break the New York agreement on the steps of simultaneous action, alleging that the inspection by IAEA of the nuclear facilities of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea was not satisfactory and the exchange of presidential envoys between the north and south has not been realized. The United States threatens that if the Democratic People's Republic of Korea does not allow a reinspection by IAEA and does not realize the exchange of special envoys between the north and south, it will resume the "Team Spirit" joint military exercises in 1994, will not have the third round of Democratic People's Republic of Korea/United States talks and will transfer the problem of the

Democratic People's Republic of Korea to the United Nations Security Council. In the meantime, the Secretariat of IAEA is going to convene a meeting of the Board of Governors to adopt a resolution against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. Thus, the United States has openly reversed the New York agreement and totally destroyed the foundation for the third round of talks, darkening the prospect of the settlement of the nuclear issue at this crucial moment when its settlement is in sight. This is motivated by its consistent hostile policy towards the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

It is obvious that the United States set unreasonable preconditions which are not specified in the New York agreement because they sought from the beginning the political purpose of stifling the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, not a solution to the nuclear issue through Democratic People's Republic of Korea/United States talks.

The United States is distorting the facts, claiming that their unreasonable preconditions were included in the agreement with the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. But they had been refuted by the reasonable argument by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea at the time of the discussion of the New York agreement.

Even after the publication of the agreed conclusions, they are insisting on the unilateral preconditions rejected by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. This cannot be construed otherwise than a deliberate scheme to break the New York agreement and create a phase of confrontation. In actuality, the United States is playing first fiddle in an international campaign for putting pressure on the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, openly revealing its intention to stage the "Team Spirit 94" joint military manoeuvres and let the United Nations Security Council take sanctions against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on the pretext of the problems in the inspection by IAEA and the exchange of special envoys between the north and south.

All the facts clearly prove that the United States has neither the intention to continue talks nor the will to solve the nuclear issue but only schemes to isolate and stifle the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, with the nuclear issue and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea/United States talks as an expedient. This perfidious act of the United States is creating a grave situation on the Korean peninsula, which may bring the Korean nation back to the phase of confrontation and war. Now that the United States has broken the New York agreement and brought the Democratic People's Republic of Korea/United States talks to a rupture, leading the situation to the extreme pitch of strain, we can no longer unilaterally fulfil our obligations concerning the steps of simultaneous action.

Therefore, we have decided not to send our delegation to the third round of Democratic People's Republic of Korea/United States talks. Since the United States and IAEA are deliberately distorting the results of the recent inspection for the continuity of safeguards and using it as a pretext for putting pressure on the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, we will no longer deem it our obligation to ensure the continuity of safeguards. This measure of ours accords with the principle of the New York agreement of 25 February that stipulates that

the fulfilment of each simultaneous action agreed upon is necessary for the implementation of all the agreed conclusions.

Our position that we are not bound by our promise with the United States once the latter breaks its promise with us is unshakeable and consistent. The Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, in its statement dated 12 March 1993, said that our declared withdrawal from the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) was caused mainly by the nuclear threat by the United States to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, including the "Team Spirit" joint military exercises, and its policy of stifling the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, as well as the partiality of IAEA.

In the Democratic People's Republic of Korea/United States joint statement issued on 11 June 1993 in New York, we made it clear that we would unilaterally and temporarily suspend the effectuation of our withdrawal from the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons on the condition that the Democratic People's Republic of Korea/United States talks for a solution to the nuclear issue continued. If the United States avoids the talks and increases the nuclear threat to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, resuming the "Team Spirit" joint military exercises in 1994, and if IAEA widens its partiality and resorts to strong-arm politics and pressure, distorting the results of the recent inspection of the nuclear facilities of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, we have no alternative but to put into practice the measures declared in the statement by the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea of 12 March 1993 in order to defend the sovereignty of the nation and the security of the State. Even if the settlement of the nuclear issue is delayed because of the failure of the talks, we are not in a hurry at all.

The United States must ponder over the prevailing situation, looking straight at its seriousness.